



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Consumer
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

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Reply to
Attn. of: SP 97-05
CACFP-488

Subject: Use of Child Nutrition State Administrative Expense (SAE) Funds for
Nutrition and Educational Training (NET) Program Activities

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - Colorado ED, Colorado DPHE, Iowa,
(Child Nutrition Programs) Kansas, Missouri ED, Missouri DH,
Montana OPI, Montana DPHHS, Nebraska ED,
North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and
Wyoming ED

This is to inform you that SAE funds can be used in support of State-level nutrition education activities related to Child Nutrition Programs, including teacher training, which are undertaken as part of NET.

FNS Instruction 781-2, Section VII, B, 5, currently states that teacher training is not an allowable SAE cost as it relates to NET activities. This was based on an interpretation of the provision in the National School Lunch Act (Section 12c) that prohibits the Secretary from imposing any requirement with respect to teacher personnel, curriculum, instruction, methods of instruction, and materials of instruction in any school. Since the time FNS Instruction 781-2 was issued in 1988, several changes have taken place within the Child Nutrition Programs which have caused the Agency to reevaluate this policy. These changes include Team Nutrition and the School Meals Initiative which make nutrition education and teacher training an integral part of the Child Nutrition Programs at State level. The Agency therefore takes the position that although FCS is prohibited from requiring the State to conduct or require specific teacher training or curriculum development, the State agency may elect to use SAE funds for teacher training if the training is provided by the State. All uses of SAE funds must be for State-level administrative costs in accordance with 7 CFR Part 235 and these funds cannot be used to provide grants or funding to local-level administrative organizations.

Please contact our office if you have any questions.

for Edward F. Campbell
ANN C. DEGROAT
Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs